Field Trips to Boyce Thompson Arboretum are fun, hands-on, immersive experiences. Students' adventures on the trails are full of discovery and connection.

Each field trip helps students increase their science inquiry skills and is tied to Arizona State Science Standards.

Situated on 343 acres of scenic upland Sonoran Desert with nearly five miles of trails, BTA is Arizona’s oldest and largest botanical garden.
HOME SWEET HOME
1ST - 6TH

Students discover the 4 components of habitat: food, water, shelter, and space as they gather and evaluate data, they find out how local plants and wildlife use natural resources to meet their survival needs.

TOPICS: HABITAT, ECOSYSTEM, ADAPTATION, OBSERVATION, RESOURCES, FOOD, WATER, SHELTER, BIOTIC (LIVING), ABIOTIC (NON-LIVING)

WHAT’S FOR DINNER?
2ND-6TH

Students explore the concepts of food webs as they observe and investigate the plants and animals in the Arboretum. Gathering evidence from skulls and pellets they try to uncover what local wildlife is eating for dinner.

TOPICS: FOOD WEB, PRODUCER, CONSUMER, DECOMPOSER, CARNIVORE, OMNIVORE, HERBIVORE, DETRITIVORE, ADAPTATIONS, ENERGY, PREDATIONS, COMPETITION, PHOTOSYNTHESIS

BTARBRETUM.ORG | EDUCATION@BTARBRETUM.ORG | (520) 689-4700
AWESOME ADAPTATIONS 3RD-6TH

Students explore the structural adaptations of plants that help them survive. Looking closely, they will compare and contrast plants in different habitats to determine similarities and differences in adaptations of seeds, stems and leaf structures.

TOPICS: ADAPTATIONS, STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION, HABITAT, MODELS, PHOTOSYNTHESIS,

EARTH ROCKS 2ND-4TH

Every rock tells a story! Students will learn how to “read” rocks as they gather evidence to construct the story of how the current landforms came to be. Using erosion tables students will investigate the effects water has on the land.

TOPICS: WEATHERING, EROSION, METAMORPHIC, SEDIMENTARY, IGNEOUS, ROCK CYCLE, LANDFORMS, GEOLOGY
ARBORETUM DISCOVERY | 6TH-12TH

Discover the wonders of the desert through engaging narratives about the diverse desert plants and wildlife.
Tour length approximately 1 hour.

TOPICS: DESERT PLANTS, PLANT ADAPTATIONS, ANIMAL ADAPTATIONS, FEATURES OF A DESERT, BIOSPHERE, AND LANDFORMS.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What should we bring with us?
On the day of your field trip, students should bring water, sun protection, wear closed-toe shoes, and bring lunches if you are having lunch at the Arboretum.

Where do we park?
Park in the bus parking area on the north side of the parking lot.

Who will we meet in the parking lot?
You will be greeted by your Field Trip Leaders in the parking lot.

How many students are in a group?
Depending on the number of students attending, you will be divided into groups of 15–20.

What do we do with our lunches?
If you are bringing lunches, they will be transported to the picnic area for you by the tour guides.

Can we go into the gift shop?
Yes you can! We ask that small groups of 3–6 enter the gift shop at once. Please notify us if you intend to visit the gift shop so we can have an appropriate number of staff to support you.

What if we are running late?
If you are running late, please call 520–689-4546 to notify the staff.

How do we pay for our field trip?
You can pay by check, credit card, cash, or invoice.
ARBORETUM ADVENTURES
FIELD TRIP PROGRAM

COST: $7/STUDENT

Teachers and Chaperones:
- Teachers and School staff are admitted free of charge
- Minimum number of chaperones is one for every 12 students.
- Chaperones are free at the 1:6 ratio. Extra chaperones cost $7 each

SCHEDULING
- Offered Tuesday through Friday, October 25th - April 29th
- Start times of 9, 9:30 or 10
- Field trips are generally 2 hours long.
- Must be booked 3 weeks in advance
- Minimum number of students is 10

LUNCH
Boyce Thompson Arboretum has a picnic area where your group can eat lunch before you head back to school.

REQUEST BOOKING NOW!
SUPER SENSES | KINDERGARTEN

Plants and animals use more than their eyes to learn and survive in nature. During this field trip students will discover animal super senses as they explore the Arboretum.

TOPICS: LIVING, NON-LIVING, SENSES, RESPOND, ENVIRONMENT, OBSERVE

LIFECYCLE LOOPS | 1ST

Students hit the trail to explore the life cycles of plants and animals. Through games, role playing and guided investigations students will uncover the similarities and differences between the lifecycle of plants, insects and other animals.

TOPICS: LIFECYCLE, OBSERVATION, STABILITY AND CHANGE, MODELS, CHARACTERISTICS, STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT